

Fee Free Days

The National Park Service will join other Department of the Interior agencies and the US Forest Service, Department of Agriculture in waiving entrance fees by adopting National Public Lands Day as a single interagency Fee Free Day. The actual date has yet to be announced, but is generally celebrated in September.

Tonto National Monument's 99th birthday will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 19, 2006. All entrance fees will be waived for the day. Refreshments will be served.

The paved, self-guided trail to the Lower Cliff Dwelling is one-mile round-trip, climbs 350', and takes about an hour to complete. The trail closes to uphill travel at 4:00 p.m.

Tonto National Monument is located four miles east of Roosevelt Dam on State Highway 188. It is 30 miles northwest of Globe, and 55 miles southeast of Payson.

For additional information call (928) 467-2241.

Upper Cliff Dwelling Trail

The trail to the Upper Cliff Dwelling is a back country trail. The first half of the trail meanders in and out of a wash while gaining elevation and requires the ability to negotiate shallow water on rocks that may be slippery, and some climbing up and down on boulders; the second half of the trail winds steeply via switchbacks and requires climbing 3 sets of steps of various heights that are unevenly spaced. There are a total of about 60 steps on the trail. Keep in mind that once you get to the dwelling, you are only halfway there; you must return via the same route and will be negotiating these two sections of trail again.

Please utilize the following screening questions to decide if this is an appropriate hike for you:

You should consider this hike if:

1. You hike on a regular basis.
2. You engage in some sort of regular exercise several times weekly.
3. You have no serious health problems that limit your activities.

You should avoid this hike if:

1. You have had a serious illness, injury, or recent surgery and have not yet fully recovered.
2. You have problems with your balance, a respiratory condition, or other health problems that limit your activities.
3. You have little or no hiking experience.
4. You walk regularly, but only on flat, level ground. This does not adequately prepare you for a backcountry hike.